## WARREN TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ILLINOIS BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (March 20, 2025)— In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jaxson Davis** of **Warren Township High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Davis is the first Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Warren Township High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Davis as Illinois' best high school boys basketball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jayson Tatum (2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.) and Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, Fl.).

The 6-foot-1, 180-pound sophomore guard averaged 19.4 points and 6.0 assists per game this past season, leading the Blue Devils (26-11) to the Class 4A state championship game. Davis also averaged 4.4 rebounds and 2.8 steals per game. A 2024 MaxPreps Freshman All-American, he was a First Team All-State selection by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association and the Associated Press as a freshman. He concluded his sophomore year with 1,379 points in his prep basketball career.

Davis has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and as a youth basketball coach. "Jaxson is the best pure point guard in the state," said Jeremy Kreiger, head coach of Joliet West High School. "He impacts winning in every facet of the game: play creation, shot creation and offensive initiation. He can score at all three levels with efficiency and passes on time and on target."

Davis has maintained a weighted 3.59 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his junior year of high school this fall.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field – and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Davis joins recent Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball Players of the Year Morez Johnson (2023-24, Thornton Township High School), Jeremy Fears (2022-23, Joliet West High School), Jaden Schutt (2021-22, Yorkville Christian High School) and Max Christie (2020-21, Rolling Meadows High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.